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Controller Chiang Offers Free Tax Assistance

The Last Day to File Tax Returns is Tuesday, April 17

SACRAMENTO – With the April 17 tax deadline approaching, State Controller John Chiang today announced staff from his Los Angeles and Sacramento offices can provide free tax preparation assistance to low- and moderate-income taxpayers.

“Not everyone can afford to hire a professional or buy software to help them prepare their taxes,” Chiang said. “My offices can help low-income, elderly, disabled and non-English speaking Californians complete their returns and help identify refunds and tax credits.”

Last year, nearly 460,000 working families missed out on \$850 million in tax credits under the federal Earned Income Tax Credit program. The EITC refunds up to \$4,536 dollars for working families that earn less than \$38,348 a year. The Child and Dependent Care Expenses credit provides up to \$1,050 for taxpayers who pay dependent care expenses and have an adjusted gross income of \$100,000 or less.

There are more than 1,800 free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) centers throughout the state to provide assistance to Californians needing help filling out their income tax forms.

In Sacramento, free tax assistance is available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 300 Capitol Mall, Room 275. To schedule an appointment and receive more information about documents that will be needed to prepare your taxes, call the Controller’s Sacramento office at (916) 445-2636.

Also, Los Angeles taxpayers can receive free help from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Controller’s Office at 660 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2050. Please call (213) 833-6010 to schedule an appointment and receive more information.

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